

REMARKS

Applicant hereby responds to the Office Action date 17 August 2005. Applicant would also like to thank the Examiner for having a telephone conference with the Applicant's Attorney on 14 September 2005.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 7-12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor in view of Huang, U.S. Pat. No. 5,502,278. Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 9 to positively recite that the second side of the securing system is "devoid of adhesive material." Newly added claim 22 also recites that the second side is devoid of adhesive material. Claim 8 has been amended for proper antecedent basis. Taylor describes a double-faced adhesive strip (see Col. 2, lines 3-7), to firmly secure a slip to a skirt or similar piece of clothing. The present invention is designed to hold a strap in place, while still allowing the strap to move with respect to the piece of clothing the strap is near. This is done without potentially damaging the piece of clothing, as is shown in Huang. Accordingly, the currently amended claims contain patentable subject matter over the cited prior art. Allowance of independent claims 1, 9, and 22 is requested, along with dependent claims 2-4, 7-12, and 14.

Declaration

The previously submitted declaration was dated 7 June 2004. This was a clerical error, and a correct declaration has been submitted having the proper date of 7 June 2005. No new information had been added. The declaration and included results are direct test market results of products constructed according to the present invention. As noted, the present invention solves a problem that most of the test subjects have previously encountered in a manner significantly better than any prior art inventions directed towards the problem. Applicant believes the declaration is further evidence that the claimed invention is new and non-obvious, and requests the claims to be passed to allowance.

Applicant believes the claims as currently amended patentably distinguish the present invention, and, in further view of the submitted Declaration, allowance is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 

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MITCHELL/953K1895-PROV FOR/051117 AMENDMENT B

Enclosures: Amendment Transmittal Letter
 Appendix A
 Appendix B
 Declaration
 Return Postcard